

The Securing American Energy & Investing in Resiliency Act Rep. Garret Graves

Despite the vast energy resources in the United States, since his first day on the job President Biden's anti-energy policies have disrupted domestic oil and gas production. Gas prices have continued to rise for Americans since Joe Biden took office. In spite of rising energy costs, the Biden administration continues to slow walk necessary oil and gas permits and has issued *zero* new onshore or offshore leases. Biden's actions have stymied America's energy potential and left us vulnerable to foreign adversaries.

Relying on Russia and other adversaries to meet energy demand has had devastating consequences, as the war in Europe continues to threaten global security and economic stability. The U.S. has vast energy resources that are critically needed at home and abroad. To lower American energy prices and support our allies abroad, Congress must take immediate action to remove barriers to development of domestic oil and gas production.

Regular oil and gas leasing is critical for operator certainty and to keep energy prices low, as it shows that shows that federal lands and waters are open for business. The Biden administration has refused to issue a single new offshore lease and continues to delay holding additional lease sales. The current five-year plan will expire on June 30, 2022. Unfortunately, three offshore lease sales included in the 2017-2022 National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program five-year plan have not been scheduled by the Biden administration. This bill requires the Department of the Interior to execute these sales by the end of the year.

This bill also requires the Department of the Interior (DOI) to issue the leases won during Lease Sale 257, which was held in November of 2021. This lease sale, the only sale held by the Biden administration to date, was vacated by a district court. The Biden administration has chosen not to appeal the decision, meaning no leases will be issued by DOI as a result of this sale.

Major provisions:

- Requires DOI to conduct the three remaining offshore oil and gas lease sales in the 2017-2022 National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program five-year plan by December 31, 2022.
- Requires DOI to issue the leases won during Lease Sale 257 within 6 months of enactment.

To cosponsor this legislation, or for additional information, contact House Natural Resources Committee Republican Staff at <u>Ashley.Nichols@mail.house.gov</u>.

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